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CURRENT SUPPORT BRIEF

UNIQUE EAST GERMAN MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

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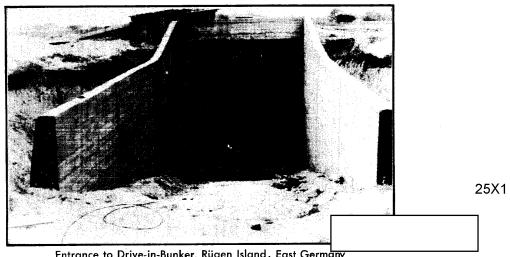
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UNIQUE EAST GERMAN MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

More than 20 drive-in-bunkers of unique design have been constructed in the past 18 months for the East German Army at four widely separated installations, generally east of the Stralsund-Berlin-Dresden line. The purpose of these installations is to provide a secure area for a small military unit which uses sensitive equipment, probably the major components of a defensive weapons system. The absence of heavy fittings capable of supporting blast doors suggests that the drive-in-bunkers are not intended as protection against atomic weapons, but against conventional high explosives.

A typical drive-in-bunker installation consists of nine drive-in-bunkers, one personnel bunker, a radar platform, and two barracks (See Sketch 1). These are characteristics of confirmed construction projects near Varnkevitz on the north coast of Rügen Island and at Marienberg hill near Cottbus. 1/ Seven similar bunkers have been reported in the Gross Dölln Airfield complex, 2/ and two, in the Heinrichsdorfer Heide near Jüterbog. 3/

Constructed of reinforced concrete and coated with bituminous material to prevent water seepage, the drive-in-bunkers are reported to be 15 meters long, five meters wide, and 5.5 meters high (See Photo). A vent ten centimeters in diameter is mounted at the left rear corner of the roof, and an aperture 50 centimeters square and enclosed by a brick wall one meter high is constructed in the center of the roof. Lightweight steel or wood double doors are mounted at the entrance.



Entrance to Drive-in-Bunker, Rügen Island, East Germany

In relatively even terrain, such as Rügen Island, the bunkers are constructed underground at a depth which would allow a one-meter cover of earth at the original ground level; the bunkers near Cottbus are constructed in cuts in the hillside and probably will be covered with earth. Concrete retaining walls or wing walls extend from either side

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of the front of the bunkers and taper to ground level. A sloping entrance ramp about 14 meters long has been dug between the retaining walls for each bunker at the Varnkevitz site. Cast on the entrance ramp are two concrete strips, 50 centimeters wide, 10 centimeters thick and spaced for a standard-gauge truck.

A double-ended ramp-type masonry structure--apparently a radar platform--about two meters high, 22 meters long, and three meters wide, has been built at both typical installations (See Sketch 2). Informants indicate that the ramps at both installations are oriented in a general north-south direction. At both Varnkevitz and Marienberg hill, four bunkers are located in a line near the ramp, while the other five bunkers are distributed at random about the site.

A personnel bunker, six meters long, five meters wide, and with a three-meter interior height, reportedly has been constructed at Varn-kevitz. The main entrance to this bunker is located at the base of an outside staircase constructed along one side of the bunker. An emergency exit 60 centimeters square is provided in the roof. The personnel bunker is built of concrete of the same thickness as in the drive-in-bunkers, but more heavily reinforced.

Two single-story barrack-type buildings have been constructed at both typical installations. These buildings are estimated to provide living and office space for a company sized unit of about 90 officers and enlisted men.

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Romp (See Sketch 2) Drive-In-Bunkers Fuel Storage □ _{Well} Barracks 300 m 25X1 Sketch 2 RAMP 31498 12-60

Sketch 1
Plan View of Varnkevitz Construction Project

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